

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 SS-15 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 CU-02 NSC-05 USIA-06 /051 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV GHUMPHREY:RVC

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

DOD/ISA:CDM. STEELE

C:WSHINN

S/S:LMATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066718

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR, PFOR

SUBJECT: V-E CELEBRATIONS

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. CENTRAL FEATURE OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN V-E CELEBRATIONS WILL BE DELEGATION TO ATTEND EVENTS AROUND MAY 8, ABOUT WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN INFORMED SEPARATELY.
2. YOU CAN NOW TAKE UP WITH KORNIYENKO, OR IN OTHER CHANNELS YOU MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE, DETAILS OF OTHER US PARTICIPATION ALREADY AGREED UPON IN PRINCIPLE: EXCHANGE OF SHIP VISITS AND VETERANS DELEGATIONS. ONE OBJECTIVE, ESPECIALLY REGARDING VETERANS EXCHANGES, IS FINDING OUT WHAT SOVIETS HAVE IN MIND.
3. ON NAVAL VISITS, YOU MAY INFORM SOVIETS THAT OUR STRONG PREFERENCE IS FOR LENINGRAD, WITH A VISIT DURING PERIOD MAY 6-10 BY A GUIDED MISSILE FRIGATE (DLG), WITH A FLAG

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OFFICER EMBARKED, AND POSSIBLY ACCOMPANIED BY A DESTROYER.

WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE A SIMILAR SOVIET NAVAL

VISIT TO A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE US PORT. BOSTON WOULD SEEM A GOOD CHOICE ON THE EAST COAST, ALTHOUGH SOVIETS MIGHT PREFER BALTIMORE (FOR ITS PROXIMITY TO WASHINGTON). ON THE WEST COAST SAN FRANCISCO WOULD SEEM AN EXCELLENT CHOICE (IN PART BECAUSE OF PRESENCE OF CONSULATE GENERAL). VISIT PROGRAMS WOULD INCLUDE RECEPTION AND HOSPITALITY BY HOST NAVAL AUTHORITIES, SIGHTSEEING, TOURS OF SHIPS BY RESIDENTS OF PORTS, RECEPTION BY SENDING SIDE'S DIPLO-MATIC REPRESENTATIVES, AND ATTENDANCE AT V-E CELEBRATIONS AS APPROPRIATE (LATTER WOULD BE APPLICABLE PRIMARILY TO THE US VISIT TO LENINGRAD).

4. ON VETERANS EXCHANGES, YOU SHOULD TELL SOVIETS THAT WE WILL ENCOURAGE US VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN EXCHANGE AND WOULD HOPE TO BE ABLE TO HAVE A MEANING-FUL EXCHANGE OF VETERANS OF THE ELBE MEETING, AS WELL AS OF SUCH COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS AS CONVOY AND SHUTTLE OPERATIONS. OUR ASSUMPTION IS THAT VETERANS DELEGATIONS WOULD PLACE WREATHS ON THE GRAVES OF UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN EACH OTHER'S CAPITALS, AND PERHAPS OTHER LOCATIONS, PRE-FERABLY BEFORE MOSCOW EVENTS REACH THEIR HEIGHT. DELE-GATIONS MIGHT ALSO BE RECEIVED BRIEFLY BY HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS ON EACH SIDE TO EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE THAT US AND USSR PLACE ON WARTIME COOPERATION. WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN SOVIET PLANS AND IN LEARNING WHAT INVITA-TIONS ARE OUTSTANDING ALREADY. FYI. WE HAVE RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY EXTENDED INVITA-TIONS TO SOME US VETERANS, AND ASSUME THAT SOME IF NOT MUCH OF THEIR EFFORT TO GET US VETERANS PARTICIPATION IN SOVIET EVENTS WILL BE OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF ANY OFFICIALLY SUPORTED US USSR V-E EXCHANGES".

5. YOU SHOULD TELL SOVIETS WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN OTHER ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS COMMEMORATING CONVOY RUNS INTO MURMANSK. WE UNDERSTAND FROM CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ARTICLE BY ELIZABETH POND THAT SOVIETS MAY BE PLANNING TO UNVEIL A PLAQUE IN MURMANSK COMMEMORATING CONVOY OPERA-TION. YOU SHOULD ASK MFA IF THIS REPORT IS ACCURATE  
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AND WHETHER THERE ARE PLANS FOR CONVOY COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES IN MURMANSK.

6. FYI. USIA IS STILL LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITIES FOR FILMS THAT MIGHT BE SHOWN BY EMBASSY (AND CONSULATE GENERAL). THERE APPEARS TO BE DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING RIGHTS FOR "LONGEST DAY". END FYI. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES, V-E DAY, EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE066718  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RVC  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750102-1038  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750317/aaaaapjr.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** V-E CELEBRATIONS FOR THE AMBASSADOR  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, US  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006